



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers@  
New York District**

## **FUSRAP**

# **Maywood, New Jersey**

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**FACT SHEET**

**January 2004**

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**DESCRIPTION:** The Maywood site is located in a highly developed area of northeastern New Jersey, in the boroughs of Maywood and Lodi and the township of Rochelle Park. It is located approximately 13 miles northeast of Newark, New Jersey. Contamination at the properties resulted from rare earths and thorium processing activities conducted at the Maywood Chemical Works (MCW) from the early 1900 through 1959. MCW stopped extracting thorium in 1959. The property was subsequently sold to the Stepan Company (Stepan), a pharmaceutical manufacturer, in 1959. The Maywood site is composed of the Maywood Interim Storage Site (MISS) and various nearby properties, including the Stepan property and numerous residential, commercial, and government properties in Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi, New Jersey. All of the residential properties have been remediated under an ongoing Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) non-time critical removal action.

**AUTHORIZATION/PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Responsibility for the Maywood site was assigned to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as a decontamination research and development project by the U.S. Congress through the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1984. DOE placed the site in their Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). In October 1997, responsibility for executing FUSRAP was transferred from DOE to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) by further Congressional action.

The site is listed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the National Priorities List (NPL). All USACE activities at the site are being coordinated with EPA Region II under CERCLA, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, and a negotiated Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA). The FFA was originally developed by DOE and EPA to outline responsibilities for each agency. Terms of the agreement are being renegotiated by USACE and EPA to incorporate the transfer of responsibilities from DOE to USACE.

Soils containing thorium, radium and uranium above site-specific cleanup levels (determined by risk analysis) are located on the site. Deposition of radionuclides was either by soil and sediment transport along the former Lodi Brook Channel, which crossed the MCW property; by emplacement of fill containing radionuclides; or by past waste disposal practices. Affected properties include 88 commercial, government-owned, and residential tracts. The MISS, used for interim storage of excavated soils and demolition debris from early vicinity property removal actions, is located on a portion of the original MCW facility and is owned by the Federal government.

**STATUS:** Activities scheduled for this year include continued subsurface characterization of soils and ground water. The Corps will continue the non-time critical removal action involving properties along Route 17 in the Boroughs of Maywood and Lodi in advance of a highway improvement project to be implemented by the State of New Jersey. As part of the CERCLA process, USACE has completed a Record of Decision (ROD) signed September 2003 to document the selected alternative. Remediation under the ROD will begin in FY04.

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